

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A photographing device
2 provided with a dust removing mechanism comprising:
3 a photoelectric conversion element which converts an
4 optical image into an electric signal;
5 an optical element arranged in a light path of the
6 photoelectric conversion element;
7 a piezoelectric element provided at a peripheral
8 portion of the optical element;
9 a drive circuit which supplies a drive signal to the
10 piezoelectric element to drive the piezoelectric element;
11 and
12 a control circuit which causes the piezoelectric
13 element to vibrate via the drive circuit, to thereby
14 cause flexural standing wave vibration in the optical
15 element, the control circuit being configured to cause at
16 least two flexural standing wave vibrations in the
17 optical element at different nodes of vibration
18 sequentially for predetermined time periods which are
19 determined in accordance with characteristics of the
20 optical element by changing control modes with time.

Claims 2-14 (canceled)

1 Claim 15 (previously presented): The photographing
2 device according to claim 1, wherein the control circuit
3 causes the piezoelectric element to vibrate at a
4 frequency corresponding to a resonance frequency of the
5 optical element, to thereby cause flexural standing wave
6 vibration in the optical element.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): The photographing device
2 according to claim 15, wherein the control circuit
3 changes a frequency at which the piezoelectric element
4 vibrates, to thereby cause at least two flexural standing
5 wave vibrations in the optical element.

1 Claim 17 (previously presented): The photographing device
2 according to claim 1, wherein the flexural standing wave
3 vibration has an amplitude of vibration in a direction
4 perpendicular to an optical element surface of the
5 optical element.

1 Claim 18 (currently amended): A control method for a
2 photographing device provided with a dust removing
3 mechanism which removes dusts from an optical element
4 arranged in a photographing light path, the method
5 comprising:
6 generating a first flexural standing wave vibration
7 in the optical element for a first predetermined time
8 period which is determined in accordance with
9 characteristics of the optical element; and
10 generating a second flexural standing wave vibration
11 different from the first flexural standing wave vibration
12 for a second predetermined time period which is
13 determined in accordance with characteristics of the
14 optical element, to remove dusts from a position
15 corresponding to a node of the first flexural standing
16 wave vibration.

1 Claim 19 (previously presented): The control method
2 according to claim 18, wherein the second flexural
3 standing wave vibration is generated in the position

4 corresponding to the node of the first flexural standing
5 wave vibration.

1 Claim 20 (new): The photographing device of claim 1,
2 wherein the characteristics of the optical element
3 include at least a shape of the optical element.

1 Claim 21 (new): The photographing device of claim 1,
2 wherein the characteristics of the optical element
3 include at least a thickness of the optical element.

1 Claim 22 (new): The photographing device of claim 1,
2 wherein the characteristics of the optical element
3 include at least a material of the optical element.

1 Claim 23 (new): The control method of claim 18, wherein
2 the characteristics of the optical element include at
3 least a shape of the optical element.

1 Claim 24 (new): The control method of claim 18, wherein
2 the characteristics of the optical element include at
3 least a thickness of the optical element.

1 Claim 25 (new): The control method of claim 18, wherein
2 the characteristics of the optical element include at
3 least a material of the optical element.